CCDLA "READY IN THE DEFENSE OF LIBERTY" FOUNDED IN 1988

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April 1, 2015

Senator Eric Coleman, Co-Chair Representative William Tong, Co-Chair Judiciary Committee Room 2500, Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Testimony Opposing Raised Bill 1027, An Act Concerning Management of Individuals Committed to the Psychiatric Security Review Board.

Dear Senator Coleman, Representative Tong and Committee Members:

The CCDLA is a not-for-profit organization of approximately three hundred lawyers who are dedicated to defending persons accused of criminal offenses. Founded in 1988, the CCDLA is the only statewide criminal defense lawyers' organization in Connecticut. An affiliate of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, the CCDLA works to improve the criminal justice system by insuring that the individual rights guaranteed by the Connecticut and United States constitutions are applied fairly and equally and that those rights are not diminished.

The CCDLA endorses the written testimony of the Office of the Chief Public Defender in opposition to Raised Bill 1027, An Act Concerning Management of Individuals Committed to the Psychiatric Security Review Board. The CCDLA urges this Committee to reject this proposal for all the reasons outlined in the testimony of the Office of the Chief Public Defender.

Respectfully submitted,

Elisa L. Villa, President CCDLA